

December 2004 Brownfields Workshop

## Program Highlights

Statutory Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Chapter 6.8, section 25355.5(a)(1)(C)

Number of Projects: 600 sites. 2/3 completed.

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## Voluntary Cleanup Program

DTSC's Voluntary Cleanup Program allows motivated parties who are able to fund the investigation and cleanup and DTSC's oversight to move ahead at their own pace to investigate and remediate their sites.

Some of the highlights of this program are:

- Project Proponents do not admit to legal liability for remediation of a site by entering into an agreement with DTSC.
- The cleanup process is consistent with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (the "National Contingency Plan", NCP) and Chapter 6.8 of the Health and Safety Code.
- Provides direct access to qualified DTSC staff including, but not limited to, geologists, engineers, scientists, and toxicologists.
- DTSC provides coordination with other state, federal, or local agencies who may have input on certain aspects of a project.
- Services to be provided by DTSC and a cost estimate for this work are set forth in the agreement.
- The Project Proponent or DTSC may terminate the agreement for any reason by giving 30-day advance written notice to the other party.
- Professional services provided include document review, oversight of site characterization, risk assessment, evaluation of feasible cleanup alternatives, and implementation of site remediation, and certification upon completion.
- Public participation activities are tailored to the project.

Project Proponents may include, but are not limited to owners of property with known or suspected hazardous substance contamination, other state or local agencies, real estate developers or others involved with proposed changes in land use or ownership.

Most properties are eligible. The main exclusions are if the site is listed as a Federal or State Superfund site, is a military facility, is under current DTSC enforcement, or if it falls outside of DTSC's jurisdiction. Sites under the current oversight of other state or local regulatory agencies may enter the program for specific services only with the overseeing agency's consent.

Under the Voluntary Cleanup Program, DTSC is committed to a cooperative, team approach with the Project Proponent. The common goal is to achieve an efficient remediation which is protective of public health and the environment.

Further information is available on DTSC's webpage:

- Fact Sheet: http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/SiteCleanup/Brownfields/SMP\_FS\_VCP.pdf
- Application:
  - http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PublicationsForms/SMP\_FORM\_APP\_VCP.pdf
- Policy and Procedure: http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PolicyAndProcedures/SiteCleanup/eo-95-006-pp.pdf